

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A fishing line guide mechanism for a spinning reel that guides fishing line onto a spool, the fishing line guide mechanism being adapted to be mounted to ends of a first rotor arm and a second rotor arm so as to be pivotable between a line-guiding position and a line-release position, said fishing line guide mechanism comprising:

a first bail support member and a second bail support member being adapted to be pivotably mounted to respective ends of the first rotor arm and the second rotor arm;

a fixed shaft having first and second ends, said first end being fixedly coupled to said first bail support member;

a fixed shaft cover fixedly coupled to said second end of said fixed shaft, said fixed shaft cover being spaced apart from said first bail support member; [[,]]

a line roller being rotatively supported on said fixed shaft, said line roller having a roller formed thereon, said line roller being configured to guide the fishing line around a peripheral surface thereof; and

a bail having first and second ends and being configured to guide the fishing line over said fixed shaft cover to said line roller, said first end of said bail being fixedly coupled to said second bail support member, said second end of said bail being fixedly coupled to at least one of said fixed shaft and said fixed shaft cover, said bail being curved outward in a circumferential direction with respect to the spool,

said fixed shaft cover including,

a first guide portion being configured to guide fishing line around its outer periphery,

a first recessed portion being disposed to interpose said second end of said bail between said first recessed portion and said first guide portion, said first recessed portion being formed by making a portion of said fixed shaft cover closest to the spool recessed,

a conical portion smoothly joined with said second end of said bail near an apex of said conical portion,

a cylindrical portion smoothly attached to a bottom surface of said conical portion on a side closer to said line roller, said cylindrical portion having a diameter that is substantially equal to that of said bottom surface of said conical portion, said first recessed portion being recessed discontinuously from said cylindrical portion, and

a second recessed portion disposed such that said second end of said bail is interposed between said second recessed portion and said first guide portion, said first recessed portion being disposed to connect at least partially with said second recessed portion on a side closer to said line roller, said first recessed portion being formed where said conical portion meets said cylindrical portion, said first recessed portion being recessed discontinuously relative to said second recessed portion with an edge portion therebetween.

2-3. (Canceled).

4. (Original) The fishing line guide mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said fixed shaft and said fixed shaft cover are formed as a one-piece unitary member.

5. (Original) The fishing line guide mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said bail is a wire-shaped member that is caulked to said second bail support member and said fixed shaft cover.

6. (Original) The fishing line guide mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said fixed shaft cover is formed by die-casting.

7. (Currently Amended) A spinning reel comprising;
a handle;
a reel unit rotatably supporting said handle;
a spool being attached to said reel unit; [[and]]

a rotor being rotatively attached to said reel unit and having first and second rotor arms that are pivotable between a line-guiding position and a line-releasing position; [[and]]

a first bail support member and a second bail support member being pivotably mounted to respective ends of said first and second rotor arms;

a fixed shaft having first and second ends, said first end being fixedly coupled to said first bail support member;

a fixed shaft cover fixedly coupled to said second end of said fixed shaft, said fixed shaft cover being spaced apart from said first bail support member; [[,]]

a line roller being rotatively supported on said fixed shaft, said line roller having a roller formed thereon, said line roller being configured to guide the fishing line around a peripheral surface thereof; and

a bail having first and second ends and being configured to guide the fishing line over said fixed shaft cover to said line roller, said first end of said bail being fixedly coupled to said second bail support member, said second end of said bail being fixedly coupled to at least one of said fixed shaft and said fixed shaft cover, said bail being curved outward in a circumferential direction with respect to said spool,

said fixed shaft cover including,

a first guide portion being configured to guide fishing line around its outer periphery,

a first recessed portion being disposed to interpose said second end of said bail between said first recessed portion and said first guide portion, said first recessed portion being formed by making a portion of said fixed shaft cover closest to said spool recessed,

a conical portion smoothly joined with said second end of said bail near an apex of said conical portion,

a cylindrical portion smoothly attached to a bottom surface of said conical portion on a side closer to said line roller, said cylindrical portion having a diameter that is substantially equal to that of said bottom surface of said conical portion, said first recessed portion being recessed discontinuously from said cylindrical portion, and

a second recessed portion disposed such that said second end of said bail is interposed between said second recessed portion and said first guide

portion, said first recessed portion being disposed to connect at least partially with said second recessed portion on a side closer to said line roller, said first recessed portion being formed where said conical portion meets said cylindrical portion, said first recessed portion being recessed discontinuously relative to said second recessed portion with an edge portion therebetween.

8-9. (Canceled).

10. (Previously Presented) The spinning reel according to claim 7, wherein said fixed shaft and said fixed shaft cover are formed as a one-piece unitary member.

11. (Original) The spinning reel according to claim 7, wherein said bail is a wire-shaped member that is caulked to said second bail support member and said fixed shaft cover.

12. (Original) The spinning reel according to claim 7, wherein said fixed shaft cover is formed by die-casting.